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BY:

Renee Conte

Date:

September 16, 2004

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of:
Miki Iwamoto et al.

Conf. No.: 7865

: Group Art Unit: 2835

Appln. No.: 10/608,478

: Examiner: Anatoly Vortman

Filing Date: June 27, 2003

: Attorney Docket No.: 10844-27US (203020)

Title: Alloy Type Thermal Fuse and Wire Member for A Thermal Fuse Element

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

This is in response to the Office Action (Election of Species Requirement) dated August 18, 2004 (Paper No. 0604). This response is being timely submitted by September 20, 2004 (September 18, 2004 being a Saturday).

REMARKS

Election of Species Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner states that the invention includes different patentably distinct species, namely, alloy compositions of 30 to 70% Sn, 0.3 to 20% Sb, and balance Bi (Specie I, claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11) and alloy compositions of 38 to 50% Sn, 3 to 9% Sb, and balance Bi (Specie II, claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12). Accordingly, the Examiner requests election of a single disclosed species for initial examination on the merits. The Examiner argues that no claim is generic.